

## **Historic, Archive Document**

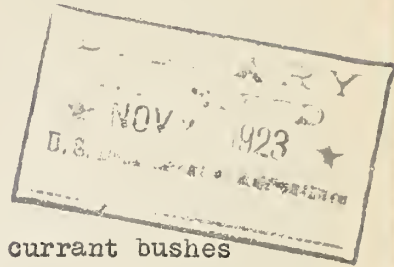
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July 5, 1923.

BLISTER RUST NEWS SERVICE.

Clip Sheet No. 1a



Gooseberry Pie Versus White Pine Lumber.

The Currant Family, which includes both gooseberry and currant bushes has been convicted of assisting in forest destruction by harboring the white pine blister rust, a deadly enemy of the white pine.

This means that in white pine districts the gooseberry pie made from wild gooseberries will have to go, so that we can continue to grow white pine lumber.

Unlike the chestnut blight fungus which spreads direct from tree to tree, the blister rust fungus can be spread only through the mediation of members of the gooseberry family.

That there are wild gooseberries and currants of several kinds growing in New England and New York is news to many people. Since all kinds harbor the blister rust, it is well to know them all. The gooseberries are represented by 3 wild species, the prickly-berried *Ribes cynosbati*, and two smooth gooseberries, *Ribes hirtella* with a wedge-shaped leaf, and *Ribes rotundifolium* with a round leaf. The currants are more numerous for they include the wild black currant, *Ribes Americanum*, with resin dots on the under surface of leaf; the skunk currant, *Ribes glandulosum*, a bush with trailing stems having a strong smell on both leaves and stems; the wild red currant, *Ribes triste*, having a 3-lobed leaf like a red maple; and the prickly currant, *Ribes lacustre*, with small prickles covering the stems.

If you are not sure which kinds of currants and gooseberries grow in your pine lot, ask your County Blister Rust Agent or your County Farm Bureau.

